THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

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VOLUME XXVII. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1847. WHOLE NO. 1332.

Original Poetry.

LIFE'S CHANGES.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.
BY CLAY CLAYTON

Like a dew drop was our darling,
Fallen from the heaven above;
Pure as night that earth can contrast,
Was the offspring of our love

Year by year she grew in beauty,
Like an open rose, pure and fair,
Till she seemed, that lovely maiden,
Both a woman and a child.

Then a shade came o'er her features,
And a deepened day by day:
What has happened in thee, maiden?
Maiden, gentle maiden, say?

From her lips no answer cometh—
Not a word she deigns to speak,
And the soft and pensive twilight—
What has changed its lovely aura?

Now the cloud has swiftly vanished,
And a cleaner, holier light
Than the radiance of her childhood,
Seems upon our raptured sight

Yes, again she is the centre
Of our hope and fondest pride;
But behold there is a stranger
Standing by our children's side.

With a grand and lofty bearing,
Does the daring stranger stand;
But love beams upon him from
Her! he clasps her timid hand.

"Mother," says the youth, "forgive me!"
"I your daughter's heart have won"
"Father," says the trembling maiden,
"I adore, you have gained a son."

KIND SPIRITS.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.
BY WILLIAM H. McCALLA

"Nought shall prevail against us, or disturb
Our happy faith, that we shall live beloved
In full of blessings."—Wordsworth.

Cheerful, indeed must be the mood,
All fail of God's own love the heart,
And which can sprung such kindly thoughts.
As these sweet lines above impart:
The spirit whence they come tells us that
"In one unknown to selfish grief,
There's still a kindness in the flesh of Life,
Unfailing benefaction in each leaf."

For happier this fair world would be,
Did more of such spirits live,
To cheer the drooping, and to each
A pure and bright example give.

To mark, and to reward the wise,
But in the heart of Virtue flow;
While unnoticed, by those who will
The guilty heart can ever know.

Philadelphia January, 1847.

Original Tales.

IS MARRIAGE A LOTTERY?

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.
BY T. S. ARTHUR.

"I am afraid to marry," said a young lady, half jesting and half in earnest, replying to something a friend had said.

"Why so, Ella?" asked one of the company, who had thus far chosen rather to listen to than join in the conversation of half a dozen young people. She was a quiet, maternally looking individual, some few years past the prime of life.

"For fear of being unhappy, Mrs. Harding," replied the first speaker.

"What an idea!" exclaimed a gay damsel, laughing aloud at the thought implied by Miss Ella. "For my part, I never expect to be happy until I am married."

"If marriage should make you any happier than you are now, Caroline, the result will be very fortunate. Your case will form an exception to the rule."

"Oh no, Ella. don't say that," spoke up the one who had replied to her first remark. "Happiness or the want of it depends entirely on the temper."

"Then it happens, strangely enough," returned Ella, smiling, "that we are more familiar with the exceptions than the rule.

No, my dear friend, not for a moment be admitted. For most of happiness than misery results from marriage."

"I ask for Mother Wadley," was answered promptly, "and Mrs Cummings, and half a dozen others I could name."

"The two have mentioned are painful instances, I must admit, and from the exceptions of which I spoke. But the result is by no means one that should deter single people, for it is a natural consequence flowing from an adequate cause. If you marry as unwisely as did the young ladies you mention, I have no doubt but you will be quite as wretched as they are—it may be, more so.

"I am sure Mr. Mallory is an elegant looking man," said one of the company, "and might have had his pick among a dozen more attractive girls than even Miss Martine and myself."

"All as thoughtless and undiscriminating as the, remarked Mrs. Harding, "as you are now."

"Ella was so fond," interrupted the last speaker.

"In the most important act of her whole life, she has certainly set shown herself to be a wise woman," said Mrs. Harding.

"But how in the world was she to know that Mr. Mallory was going to turn out so badly?" asked Caroline.

"By opening her eyes, and using the ability that God has given her to see," was answered by Mrs Harding.

"Those eyes are wondrous wise, I warn, "But one error is not to be seen."

The maiden replied.

"Do you then really think Ella," said Mrs. Harding, "that a young lady cannot make her self as thoroughly acquainted with a man's real qualities as to put any serious mistake in marriage entirely out of the question.

"To me, I must confess, that marriage seems very much like a lottery, answered Ella. "We may get a prize, but there are ten chances to one of our getting a blank."

"If you choose to make it a lottery, it will no doubt become so; but if entered into from right motives, there is no danger of this being the case."

"I don't know what you call right motives," said one, "but I'll tell you a necessary pre-requisite in the man who is to make me a husband."

"Well, child, what is it?"

"Plenty of money. I am not going to be a poor man's wife, and work myself to death, all for love, —no, not I!"

"I'll have a handsome man for a husband, or none," remarked another.

"Give me splendid talents," said a third.

"And what must you have, Ella?" asked Mrs. Harding, turning to the one she addressed.

"All these, if I can get them," replied Ella.

"Beauty, wealth and talents. Those you think would satisfy you?"

"Oh yes! I should be rather hard to please if they did not."

"Let me relate to you the histories of two friends of mine, who married young," said Mrs Harding, wh bent reassigning upon what had just been declared. "Perhaps they may contain lessons that it will be of use for you all to get by heart."

"Oh yes, that's just what young ladies gathering around Mrs. Harding, who, after a short pause, related what follows:

In my younger days," began Mrs. Harding, "I had two intimate friends, to whom I was warmly attached. I loved them for "so many good qualities, and particularly for their unselfishness. To make others happy, always appeared to give them a double pleasure. They were nearly of the same age, and possessed equal external advantages. But their characters were very different. Sarah Cochin, who was a few months older, was timid and shrinking in constant companion. Harriet Winland, was quiet, thoughtful, and observant: while Harriet, who had great personal attractions, were spoiled to think herself beneath the notice. She believed everything to be true that bore the semblance of truth—to her all that glittered was gold. Like you, and most other young ladies, we sometimes talked of marriage, and the qualifications desirable in a good husband. Harriet, without a fear or doubt, would always declared, like Ella, here, that he who won her heart must have rather, manly beauty, and brilliant talents. This she called man's cardinal virtues. Sarah never had much to say on these matters, and when we asked her opinion, she generally replied evasively.

"A young man, named Kenrose, answering pretty nearly to the beau ideal of Harriet Winland, came from a neighboring city to reside in this. He was connected with a wealthy and highly respectable family was really a handsome man, and possessed very fine abilities. He had studied law, and opened his office here for the purpose of pursuing it as a regular profession. But not possessing much practice at first, he occupied a large portion of his time in literary pursuits: writing for the magazines and papers. He also published a small volume of poetry, which, contained many really brilliant specimens of verse.

"Correspondence between Kenrose into the circle of which we formed a part, and we were consequently introduced to him. In the course of time began to pay their ardent marked attentions to Sarah Cochin, at which I felt a little surprised, as he had met Harriet Winland quite as often, and she was far more beautiful and lively. I could not see, I assured to me, to attract one like him than the other. Either Sarah was unconscious that his attentions were directed, or she did not like them, for I never observed in her the slightest evidence of the fact to be known, for all our allusions to the subject were evaded with a somewhat indifference that left our silence to decide. Such were our impressions at first; but the event showed that she had married him after all, even with those who published a much small volume of poetry, which, contained many really brilliant specimens of verse.

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United States SATURDAY POST.

HENRY PETERSON, EDITOR.

Philadelphia:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1847.

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For TEN DOLLARS, we will send six copies of the Saturday Evening Post, one copy of "The Fountain," for 1847, and one copy of either the Ladies' National Magazine, Sears' Pictorial Magazine, Graham's Magazine, or Godey's Lady's Book, for one year.

NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We would call the attention of our friends to the fact that this is the proper time to begin getting up Clubs and forwarding subscriptions for the new year. We intend to make the old Post surpass itself, if possible, the coming season, and would advise our cotemporaries to waken up, if they do not wish to be left behind altogether. Our terms are very low, in fact as low as it is possible to afford an original paper of the size and quality of the Post—of course if we chose to publish a second edition of some daily paper, lagged together without taste or method or variety, and call it "a weekly," we could afford to do it cheaper. But we know our subscribers want the best kind of a paper, and we intend giving it to them. We trust, therefore, that our friends will go to work getting up clubs, or sending on their individual subscriptions, as quickly as possible, in order that we may know at once how many more thousands we are to print during the coming year than the last.

INFORMATION WANTED

Of the following named persons who are in arrears for this paper.

Of E. B. Hutchinson, formerly of Canaan, New York.
Of Chas. Gilson, formerly of Adams, Michigan.
Of David Voorhees, formerly of Clover Hill, N. Jersey.
Of Wm. S. Ware, formerly of Pembroke, Ky.
Of Jos. Pomeroy, formerly of Cannonsburg, Pa.
Of Thos. Sparks, formerly of Sharptown, N. Jersey.
Of G. W. Stone, formerly of Baldwinsville, Mass.
Of Jas. L. Byers, formerly of Miamisburg, Ohio.
Of Thos. Hopkins, formerly of Wilmington, Del.
Of Jas. M. Price, formerly of West Haverford, Pa.
Of Harriet Reams, formerly of Jackson, Louisiana.
Of G. Warren, formerly of Broadalbin, New York.
Of Rich. S. Allen, formerly of Chester, New Jersey.

NOTICE.

New subscribers, hereafter, who may wish their subscriptions to begin with the first of the year, will please state explicitly that they wish the back numbers sent—as in other cases we shall omit doing so, and begin the year at the date of the receipt of the subscription.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ELEGY ON THE DEATH OF A FRIEND. This poem is accepted. The accompanying one would be, also, if the two last lines of each verse rhymed. Name must not grow disheartened.

THE FAMILY BIBLE, is accepted.

ENIGMAS. C. W. P.'s enigma shall be published in its turn. W. S. D. sends us the answer to G. W.'s Enigma of last week, but says there are two mistakes in it. G. W., and all others who send us such things, must be careful to have them right.

THE WARRIOR'S DREAM is received. We think we have caught our friend tripping for once, however. What does he mean by this:—

"While heaps of slain remain behind to die."

STARVATION IN IRELAND.

We have heretofore been inclined to believe that the statements of the sufferings in Ireland, were very much exaggerated—but the accounts brought by the last Steamship more than confirm everything that has been reported in relation to the extent of the famine. A private letter from a lady residing in the County of Cork, to some friends in this city, inclosing an address to the Ladies of America on this subject, gives the following affecting details of the sufferings of the poor:—

"People are dying by hundreds; in the next parish to ours, the dead are without coffins. The prospect before us is fearful. An unusually early and severe frost set in; clothing, bed-clothes, all pawned for food, and the suffering of cold added to hunger. Oh if you had seen the sight I saw yesterday; above two hundred men, tattered, looking more like skeletons than human beings, with despair on every feature, toiling on a road they were making, and not one probably having tasted food since the day before, and in the mountain wilds, the women and children perishing by hundreds. A man's day's hire will hardly earn what keeps himself alive, and though an Irishman would give his last morsel to his child, yet he must keep it himself, for if he perishes, his family must perish with him."

The writer thus appeals to her friends and to the people of this country in general:—

"I turn to you, my fondly remembered American friend; and I entreat of you for the sake of Him who had not whereupon to lay his head, that you or your own dear partner and sisters will have the mercy to send copies of the enclosed appeal to which there is not and cannot be any exaggeration, into every quarter where you would excite interest, or obtain assistance. At the moment of my writing, the dead and the dying are around us, and unless the Lord in mercy stay his hand, this country will soon be one wide charnel house. All local means are inefficient. All the resident gentry (for many have fled from the horrors they could not relieve) are straining every nerve to keep alive their famished neighbors. My sister and I who are now sole residents of D. manor, buy Indian meal at the enormous price of eighteen pounds per ton in Cork, and sell it out at our own kitchen, at a reduced price to our starving neighbors, and give it to those who cannot buy; but our own means are too narrow to permit us to continue this much longer. Oh my dear friend, in your blessed land of plenty you cannot conceive our misery.

"If you, dear lady, into whose kind hands this may fall, would collect among friends, and neighbors, sums however small, and transmit them to *Benjamin H. Warder, No. 179 Vine street, Philadelphia*, through whom they can be remitted, such aid will save many lives in a country which the Lord in righteous judgment has so severely stricken, and cause the blessing of them who are ready to perish, to return upon the heads of the donors."

Shall such appeals go unanswered? We know too well the temper of the American mind, to imagine it for a moment. Then let both city and country give of their abundance, and God shall be with the nation which thus opens its heart to the cry of a distant people, in its own hour of need.

Since penning the above, our attention has been arrested by the following extract, written by a magistrate of Cork to the Duke of Wellington. He had visited Skibbereen, which is on the east side of Castlehaven Harbor. He writes—

"Being aware that I should have to witness scenes of frightful hunger, I provided myself with as much bread as five men could carry, and on reaching the spot, was surprised to find the wretched hamlet apparently deserted. I entered some of the hovels to ascertain the cause, and the scenes that presented themselves were such as no tongue or pen can convey the slightest idea of. In the first, six famished and ghastly skeletons, to all appearance dead, were huddled in a corner on some filthy straw, their sole covering what seemed a ragged horse-cloth, and their wretched legs hanging about, naked above the knees. I approached with horror, and found by a low moaning, that they were alive—they were in a fever, four children, a woman, and what had once been a man. It is impossible to go through the detail. Suffice it to say, that in a few moments I was surrounded by at least two hundred of such phantoms, such frightful spectres as no words can describe. By far the greater number were delirious, either from famine or fever. Their demoniac yells are still ringing in my ears, and their horrible images are still fixed upon my brain. My heart sickens at the recital, but I must go on.

"In another case, decency almost forbids what follows, but it must be told. My clothes were nearly torn off in my endeavors to escape from the throng of pestilence around, when my neckcloth was seized from behind by a gripe which compelled me to turn. I found myself grasped by a woman with an infant just born in her arms, and the remains of a filthy sack across her loins, the sole covering of herself and babe."

It is added that hundreds live on one meal a day of cabbage or sea-weed. Many keep their beds continually, hoping thus to need less food to prolong life, and many who have no beds, huddle together in a heap, to keep each other warm. A letter was read from a laborer on the public works, who stated that out of a number of families employed at the same place, four persons had actually *died of starvation*—provisions being so high, that in large families the wages of those able to work, would not buy sufficient to keep all alive.

Will not the charitably disposed among our readers, set to work in their respective localities, and see what can be done! Let them remember that every dollar will help to keep the life in some poor, famished creature. Collections may be forwarded, as above stated, to *Benjamin H. Warder, No. 179 Vine street, Philadelphia.*

DOMBEY AND SON.

The New York Mirror quotes a portion of our article in which we expressed our intention to discontinue the regular publication of the above work, and remarks upon it as follows:—

"The Saturday Evening Post, published in Philadelphia, is a very good paper, of the kind, but we fear that in striving to be too good it will overshoot the mark, and become decidedly bad. It has been making a terrible onslaught lately upon immoral publications, and was very bitter on Sue's last work, the Foundling, which is designed by its author to effect the same object the Post is striving for, but by quite opposite means. The old-fashioned way of making vice hateful, was to show it up; but the Saturday Evening Post adopts a different plan, and hopes to suppress vice by keeping it out of view, just as an untidy housekeeper darkens her windows to make her parlors look clean. For our own part, we like the old Biblical plan of letting in plenty of light upon the vices of the world, as well as into dirty parlors, that the filth may be seen and avoided. The Post, in its excessive nicety, has concluded not to print any more of *Dombey and Son.*"

We find, by the Mirror's remarks, that our article in reference to the discontinuance of Dombey and Son, is liable to misapprehension. The reason given in that article as "*among the reasons*" for its discontinuance, is not the only or even the principal one. We did not design to cast odium upon any paper that still continued the work, because we honestly think that, so far, there has been infinitely more good in it than harm—and we do think that some harm results from both the favorable manner in which the use of spirituous liquors is always alluded to by Mr. Dickens, and from his oaths and slang phrases. Our main reason for discontinuing the regular publication of Dombey and Son is this—the quantity of uninteresting matter it contains. We by no means deny that there are passages interspersed through it, equal perhaps to any thing that Mr. Dickens has ever written; nor that Florence and little Paul are most interesting and admirable characters. But the story is spun out so, and the endless pratings of the inferior characters, now that the novelty has worn off, are so tiresome, that we could not consent to inflict them any longer upon our readers. The dull chapters, when a work appears all at once, can be skipped over as if they were not; but when appearing periodically in a paper, all claim an equal importance. In truth, there is not room in any newspaper, whatever be its size, for dulness; and the same work that would be pronounced admirable, if issued at once in book form, would be voted execrable and a bore, if issued only in small instalments. So much for Dombey and Son.

The Mirror, however, says it "likes the old BIBLICAL plan of letting in plenty of light upon the vices of the world, as well as into dirty parlors, that the filth may be seen and avoided." But, we would respectfully ask, does it also approve of *scattering filth in clean parlors*—of infusing a knowledge of corrupt things into the pure and innocent hearts of the young, which is the question before us. May not *certain kinds of* knowledge be too dearly bought? Is not the following a BIBLICAL lesson, that bears with great force upon this subject:—

"And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die.

"For God doth know, that in the day ye eat thereof, *then your eyes shall be opened; and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*

"And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired *to make one wise*, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat; and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat."

And what then? Gone, forever gone were the blessed days of innocence and joy! They had gained knowledge, but they had lost paradise. It is true to this day. Every man has felt the danger of allowing his thoughts to thirst after forbidden knowledge. Every one knows that there are *some* things you cannot even touch, and not be defiled.

But the editor of the Mirror knows this well. Within the last two or three months, his columns have uttered a similar language. Does he forget already, that long and able critical condemnation of Bulwer's "Lucretia?" It is not in our power at present to lay our hands upon the number containing it, but, unless our memory plays us false, Lucretia was condemned by him upon the same general principles that Eugene Sue was condemned by us. He deprecated then the calling the attention of the people to the fact that, by means of subtle poisons, the life of a husband or of a wife could be sapped, and no one be able to trace the murder home to its guilty source. He then thought it unwise to familiarize the mind of man or woman with the horrid details of such an unholy art. As the appeal, therefore, was made of old "from Philip drunk, to Philip sober," so do we now appeal to the Mirror wise, from the Mirror foolish.

THE BATTLE OF LIFE.

We are sorry to say that this Christmas Story is in our opinion decidedly inferior to those that have preceded it. The Cricket on the Hearth, The Chimes, The Christmas Carol, were each perfect gems in their way, hardly to be overpraised; written in the most attractive style of their popular author, and though entirely distinct in character, possessing one excellence in common—a beautiful practical lesson, shining out through the incidents of a deeply interesting, though simple story. But this last, it seems to us, is deficient, both in interest and in moral power. The characters and events do not as in the others stamp themselves ineffaceably upon your memory with the force of reality, they are not portrayed strongly, not unfolded skilfully, and the grand idea upon which the whole plot turns, and the development of which is meant to be so deeply moving and so impressive, does not please us at all. Self sacrifice is a beautiful and holy thing when, in the natural course of events, it comes in the line of duty; but the sacrifice that Marion makes seems to us at best a questionable proceeding. She forsakes her lover on the eve of marriage and leaves her home under circumstances studiedly arrayed to produce the impression that she is lost to her family, and all this for the *chance* that after she is gone, he whose true and devoted love she thus tramples upon, will transfer his affections to her sister Grace, who has long loved him in secret. Now the plan turns out very well because it is in the hands of a novelist, but she had no right to presume that it would; the happiness of her plighted lover, whose constant faith she had no reason to doubt, is at stake, as well as her own, and surely it was an unwarrantable assumption of responsibility to take their fate into her own hands. We have always valued the writings of Dickens for the clear, healthy feeling that pervades them, and for that exquisite truth to nature through the power of which the hearts of millions beat responsive to the magic touches of his pen. But the plot of this story seems to us forced, unnatural, and conceived rather after the French school of sentiment than in the author's usual tone of true old English feeling. The opening scene, descriptive of a battle field when the beneficent work of nature is going on upon its ravaged surface, is in his own happy and inimitable vein; and there are passages of touching beauty, strokes of deep pathos that go direct to the heart, reminding you of his best efforts. The style throughout, also, flows on in that peculiar rhythm, so smooth and musical, which will be recognized with pleasure by all the admirers of Dickens. But these minor merits are small compensation for the absence of a sound, wholesome Thought—the presence of a false one; and those who have eagerly looked for the coming of a successor to the three charming Christmas tales, will be disappointed to find that this, "The Battle of Life," with the most promising title, is the least satisfactory performance.

GUINEAS AND COPPERS.

N. P. Willis says that "Ralph Waldo Emerson has plenty of guineas of thought, only that he does not know his guineas from his coppers, and gives you one with the same flourish with which he gives you the other."

It is somewhat the same way with Willis himself—only that a large proportion of his guineas are nothing but gilded coppers.

WILLIS AND MRS. HEAVISIDE.

We have not met lately with a more trashy article than the recent defence volunteered by N. P. Willis, in the Home Journal, of the conduct of the notorious paramour of Dr. Lardner. Any defence that could have been made would be bad enough—and the friends of Mrs. Heaviside, if she have any, must know that the best policy to pursue in such cases is a discreet silence. But when the intrinsic difficulties of a bad cause, are increased by the addition of a foolish advocate, we may well pity the party on trial at the bar of public opinion.

It is not our object in this article, to waste words in proof of the flagrant guilt of Mrs. Heaviside—she is condemned already. For, even admitting that she might be excused for the desertion of her husband, no one can succeed in palliating the abandonment of her children—for such an offence there may be pardon, but no excuse or justification.

Not, therefore, to vent any indignation upon the wretched Mrs. Heaviside, have we alluded to this subject, but to express briefly, though emphatically, our opinion of Mr. Willis's article. It is not only puerile, but conceited and disgusting. As an instance of the paltry conceit of it, we may mention that, when speaking of his first meeting with Dr. Lardner at a ball, he goes out of his way to inform his readers that he was the partner at that time of "the unmarried daughter of an English earl"—not the daughter, only; but the *unmarried* daughter—considered, of course, an eligible match, and all that.

But Mr. Willis says that it is insinuated, in a certain article which he is commenting upon, that he himself has been "too familiar" with Mrs. Heaviside. We do not perceive any insinuation of the kind. And if *he* does, why does he not repel it with the indignation of a man of unquestioned virtue and honor, instead of treating it in a "man-of-the-world," half-careless fashion, as if the charge were not by any means an insulting or unpleasant one.

But we will say no more. Our only object was to express our candid opinion of the article in question. Mr. Willis is a man of undoubted capacity, we once thought of unquestionable genius. But he has abused his gifts—he has become more worldly as he has increased in years—and that mental radiance which his countrymen at one time fondly hoped denoted the presence of a star of the first magnitude, has grown fainter and fainter, until it is now only seen as a dim glow-worm light, shining out from the midst of thoughts that are of the earth, earthy.

SPIRITED POEM.

We are indebted to our friend, T. Buchanan Read, for the following spirited poem. Those who have merely known Mr. Read as the author of some of the most delicate and beautiful poems that have ever been written in America, will be pleased to find that he can string his lyre to sturdier numbers.

RISE!

Who are ye who sit and murmur
O'er your grievance hard and long?
Who are ye whose necks are trodden
By the iron foot of wrong?
Wear ye not God's mighty image?
Rise! assert it, and be strong!

Can ye see your wives and children
Under old oppressions cower,
And not feel your right arms aching
With the fulness of their power?
Rise! a life of idle groaning
Is not worth one well wrought hour!

Able bodied, idle minded!
Do ye weep beneath your pain,
Or, with empty cant of Freedom,
Do ye stagger with your chain?
Hear ye not your weaker brother?
Rise! or wear the curse of Cain.

Will ye sit in dust and ashes,
Gazing on the proud and great?
Know ye not that soul and sinew
Must achieve its own estate?
Rise, to action! or, in garrets,
Dream and so deserve your fate!

Are ye Freemen, Freemen truly?
Do ye act as Freemen do?
Are your rulers not your leaders?
Are they many, or you few?
Rise! with purpose firm, and teach them
They must first be ruled by you.

Unto you belongs the vessel,
And the freedom of the sea;
Will ye bear your servants dictate
What her freight of laws shall be?
Rise! and hurl their errors over,
Like the worthless chests of tea.

NICHOLAS AND THE POLES.

The following description of the punishment inflicted by order of the *amiable* Emperor of all the Russias, upon such of his victims as attempt to escape from their horrible prison house of Siberia, is particularly commended to the attention of those Americans who are perpetually sending home tales from abroad of the kindness and goodness of the most heartless despot in the old world:—

"The common punishment is a sort of running the gauntlet between two files of soldiers armed with rods. The infliction commenced on those sentenced to seven thousand blows, but the Abbe Sieracinski was left to be the last of them.

"The prisoners, naked to the waist, were led, each in his turn, fourteen times through the ranks, (two soldiers striking at once counts but for one blow.) When the prisoner falls exhausted, he is raised up and placed on a bench, where he is made to receive the remainder of his punishment. When the Abbe Sieracinski's turn arrived, a doctor went up to him and offered him drink, but he refused, and walked up to his executioners, singing the psalm, *miserere mei deus!* As he was weak, his constitution shattered by long privations—he fell after receiving one thousand blows, he was then taken up, placed on the bench, made to kneel, his hands tied behind his back, so as not to protect it, and his head tied to a stake. In this position, he was taken round in front of his executioners. He still breathed at the end of four thousand blows. He shortly afterwards expired, and more than two thousand blows were inflicted on his lifeless corpse!"

THE DOLLAR MARK.

No one seems to know how the mark $ originated—there are as many opinions, almost, as there are dollars in some of Uncle Sam's iron boxes. We have given three already within the last two weeks, and now a correspondent of the Baltimore American has another. One philosopher says that it is an abbreviation of the pillars of Hercules, which are supposed to be represented upon the Spanish dollar. Another makes it an abbreviation of U. S. But the American says:—

"The true derivation of it is the figure 8. The Spaniards, from whom we derive the dollar, count by reals, as the French do by francs. A real is in value 12½ cents, or one eighth part of a dollar. Any one who has read Gil Blas or Don Quixotte, will recollect the phrase '*piece of eight*,' which is frequently used by the author of those works. This term then means nothing more than a dollar, or 8 reals. When, therefore, the dollar became generally used, the figure 8 was prefixed to express dollar, and in process of time the 8 has been changed to the present mark. It has been asserted, but I know not whether correctly or not, that General Hamilton first used this mark, soon after the adoption of our currency of dollars and cents."

EUROPE AND AMERICA.

Sir Francis Head, as bigoted a tory as ever breathed, contrasting the new world with the old, says that "the Heavens are infinitely higher—the sky bluer—the clouds are whiter—the air is fresher—the cold is intenser—the moon looks larger—the stars are brighter—the thunder is louder—the lightning is vivider—the wind is stronger—the rain is heavier—the mountains are higher—the rivers larger—the forests bigger—the plains broader; in short, the gigantic and beautiful features of the new world seem to correspond very wonderfully with the increased locomotive powers and other brilliant discoveries which, under the blessing of the Almighty power, have lately been developed to mankind."

Yes, this great Western continent gives evidence on every hand, that it was designed to be the theatre where a new and better order of things should at length dawn upon the suffering masses of mankind. Let the American people never forget their holy mission.

A GLORIOUS DEATH.

A young Jerseyman, named Joseph Stackhouse, Jr., was drowned in the creek a short distance above Mount Holly, not long since, while engaged in rescuing a small boy who had broken through the ice. The boy was saved, but his deliverer became chilled, and the ice being broken to a considerable distance around him, he sank to rise no more. Such a death is more glorious, this endeavoring to save life, than that which the soldier meets on the battle field, even in the justest cause.

THE PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT.

The Pennsylvania Regiment was at the South west Pass, on the 19th ult., on its way to the seat of war.

THE PRIZE PIANO.

A Concert was held in this city, last week, at which it was advertised that a Prize Piano, worth two hundred and fifty dollars, would be presented to the author of the "best and most original conundrum" offered. The following conundrum took the prize. It is poor enough, and we do not wonder that charges have been made of unfairness in the selection. For if the wits of Philadelphia cannot produce a better conundrum than this, they must be a very dull-brained set. But here it is:—

Why is the character of the prize piano estimated like the character of a great and good man?

Because we judge its grandeur by its action—its goodness by its tone.

The following have also been published as among the hundreds handed in. It is truly melancholy to read them. Being in particularly good spirits the morning we first saw them, we did contrive to get up a laugh at one or two of them, but whether our readers can also contrive to be merry while reading them, will depend very much upon the state of the weather.

Why does an individual who gets "deeply, darkly, beautifully *blue*" enact the part of a religious hypocrite?

Because he wears "the livery of Heaven to serve the devil in!"

Why is Santa Anna, in asserting that the U. S. Army and people were cowards and barbarians, like a *harp struck by lightning*?

Because he is a *blasted lyre!*

Why is a sharp nosed woman like the great wall of China?

Because, if crossed, you're apt to find a Tartar.

Why was Jonah reckoned among the "upper ten thousand?"

Because he was the bosom companion of a *big fish.*

When is woman like bread, man's staff of life?

When she is more *needed* (kneaded) at home than *toasted* abroad.

Why should a man with one cent export a large quantity of bread stuff?

Because he is the owner of *ten mills.*

Why should Prince Albert feel jealous of one of our American Generals?

Because Taylor has his arms around Victoria.

Why is the river Schuylkill like a prisoner in the hands of a surly jailor?

Answer—Because it is dam'd and locked up.

Why is the man that wins the prize Piano like a man asking his wife for a dessert after dinner?

Answer—Because he says I'll take that Pie, Anna.

Why is an act of *homicide* like Great Britain?

Because it is known over the world as *assassination*—(*a-sassy-nation.*)

Why is the beauty of the prize Piano like Charles Dickens?

Answer—Because it lies in its "*Notes.*"

THE CENTRAL RAILROAD.

We have the pleasure of informing our Pennsylvania readers, that the number of shares necessary to complete the amount required to secure the charter of this great work, has at length been subscribed, and 727 shares over. Our Pittsburg friends will begin to see now, that the Philadelphia movement is no sham, but solid earnest.

In connection with this subject, we may mention that the City Councils of St. Louis have memorialized the Legislature of Missouri, for permission to subscribe half a million of dollars to the stock of a railroad to run from that city eastwardly, to join such other roads as may be distributed through the States of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio.

Doubtless before many years, we shall have an uninterrupted line of railroad communication between Philadelphia and St. Louis. Then we shall begin to cry out to our friendly rivals, New York and Baltimore, "Clear the track for the Quaker City!"

MR. DEMPSTER.

We are glad to find that the concerts of this sweet vocalist have been thronged in London. The Howitts, who have lately started a new periodical, say of his second concert, "that it was extremely well attended, by an audience which showed a true and rapturous appreciation of the beauty and the soul of the performance." We understand that Mr. Dempster is a native of Burlington, New Jersey—a State which has given many able and talented men to the Union, among whom we may particularly note the great novelist, Cooper.

Editorial Varieties.

PAUPER EMIGRANTS.

The city of New York is literally overrun with pauper emigrants. The Courier and Enquirer says:—

"The Garrick brought over three hundred steerage passengers, and no less than one hundred and fifty of them reached the city in a state of utter destitution, and were sheltered in the First Ward Station House. The Alms House is now so crowded, and the applications for admission so constant, the Commissioner has absolutely been compelled to turn the *dead house* at Bellevue into a receptacle for the living. It is also contemplated as a matter of absolute necessity, to hire some buildings in the upper part of the island to shelter the hundreds who, if not thus provided for, must die in the streets of cold and starvation."

We pity these poor beings from our soul, but the crowned heads and aristocracy of Europe, have no right to first plunder their subjects until they are made paupers, and then ship them over for us to maintain. Our Government should not allow it. Emigration is one thing—but *Pauper Shipments* is another.

CURIOUS SENTENCE.

The following curious remarks are said to have accompanied the passing of the sentence, by "a judge of the olden time" upon a criminal, against whom the circumstantial evidence was rather slight.

"Prisoner at the bar, you have been found guilty, by a jury of your countrymen, of a crime which subjects you to the penalty of death. You say you are innocent of the charge; the truth of that assertion is known to only you and your Maker. It is my duty to leave you for execution. If guilty, you know you richly deserve the fate which awaits you; if innocent it will be a great gratification to feel that you are hanged without such a crime on your conscience; in either case you will be delivered from a world of care!"

The man that would not willingly submit to his fate, after such convincing arguments as the above, must be incorrigible.

SOWING TARES.

Should not such statements as the following make publishers look carefully into the character of the works they are instrumental in scattering through the land. We think so, and are willing to be thought a little over scrupulous, rather than to incur the danger of erring upon the more dangerous side. A colporteur in the Western Reserve, Ohio, says:—

"There is a great deal of immoral, and infidel reading here. I find that families that cannot afford to pay any money for good books, can yet give from two to five dollars a year for impure and worthless publications. Do publishers and booksellers believe, that 'whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap?' What a harvest of pollution and vice must be reaped from the licentious literature, scattered broad cast over the land! Into the storehouse of whose final reward shall it be gathered?"

TOO FORGIVING.

The editor of the Mississippi Creole is one of the most charitable men we know. He speaks as follows relative to the plagiarism upon Sprague's lines "To My Segar," noticed by us last week and which, it appears, was soon detected:—

"We forgive Mr. Bode heartily for the fraud he practised on our friendship and confidence in him, and would, even now, spare him this disgraceful *expose*, had not the Vicksburg Whig already made the matter public."

The Creole is too forgiving by half. A man that would commit such an action, does not deserve the friendship or confidence of his fellows.

MARBLE CASTINGS.

A composition has been invented in Prussia, which perfectly imitates marble, and may be poured into moulds in a fluid state. Casts made of this material have all the soundness and transparency of the stone they imitate, and perfectly resemble "the Canova Marble."

Statues, it is said, may be cast of this material as easily as of plaster of Paris, and will be afforded at so cheap a rate, that it will be in the power of persons of very moderate means to possess them. A manufactory has already been erected at Charlottenburg, Prussia.

A HONIED THOUGHT.

A contemporary says that a drop or two of honey well rubbed on the hands while wet, after washing with soap, prevents chapping, and removes the roughness of the skin.

Ah, we now understand why it is that "*tulip (two lip) salve*" is good for chapped lips.

GENERAL SCOTT.

The old General has not been caught tripping, as so many supposed. He explicitly denies having made any revelations in confidence or otherwise, to Gomez, the editor of the Spanish paper *La Patria.*

LORD ROSSE'S TELESCOPES.

We find the following description of the above remarkable scientific instruments in the Edinburgh Journal:—

"The smallest Telescope is contained in a dome roofed edifice, resembling an ordinary observatory, and therefore presents nothing exteriorly remarkable. The two larger are under no roof; they are open to the weather; great black tubes dangling from chains like the funnels of steamboats, lowered slopingly to on the perpendicular. One of these is twenty-six feet long, and three feet in diameter, and is adjusted so as to wheel round to point in any required direction. The other, which is appropriately called the 'monster telescope,' measures fifty feet in length by six feet in diameter, and is suspended between high and substantial walls, which permit its command of only a stripe of the heavens from south to north—an arrangement which, however imperative from the bulk of the machine, I was sorry to think must somewhat lessen its usefulness."

This "monster telescope" is the one, we believe, that overturned, with a *few observations*, the "Nebular Theory." Some imaginative philosophers had laid out a system of the Universe, in which the only thing needful was to plant nebulæ, or "star-seed," as they termed it, and let it grow into stars and worlds. But the "monster telescope" made it in a short time perfectly evident to all, that the "star-seeds" were stars, full-grown already, only a little further off. And so that theory was satisfactorily despatched, to the great delight of all sensible men.

TRAVELLING ON SUNDAYS.

The Glasgow Town Council have decided in favor of running Railroad trains on the Sabbath, by a vote of 24 to 17.

It was contended on one side "that the running of Sunday trains would deluge Scotland with a flood of continental immorality and infidelity; and on the other, that a moderate accommodation on a Sunday was absolutely required by the wants of society, and would be rather beneficial than otherwise to the people." Sir Culling Smith, one of the chief representatives of the Dissenters, speaking of the prohibition of Sunday trains, says:—

"I will at once say, that while I myself possess a carriage, and consider myself entitled to make use of it on the Sabbath, I do not think it improper that a poor man should make use of a Railway carriage on that day."

YOUNG MEN, BEWARE.

The Baltimore correspondent of the North American states that a young Virginian, who was on his way to New York, in passing through that city a few nights ago, tried his luck at the gaming table, and was unfortunate enough to win $1,500. This encouraged another trial the next evening, when it is asserted that the surplus $1,500 went by the board and $10,000 more, an amount which he had just received from his guardian and intended putting into business in a house in New York.

We are glad to see that the Legislature of this State are taking measures more effectually to suppress gambling houses and gambling. Many a young man is ruined by them—led on in the same insidious way, by being allowed to win at first, as this young Virginian was.

IMPORTANT STATEMENT.

We see it stated that the London Shipping Gazette estimates that it will require a weekly importation of ONE MILLION BUSHELS CEREAL FOOD to supply the loss of the potato crop in Ireland, England and Scotland, up to August or September next; and with the French ports open, this quantity will not be obtained, unless prices should rise considerably, so as to draw food into the country, and retain it there. It is found that the starving millions in Ireland are sufficient to consume more grain than is arriving in the different ports of the Kingdom; that the mills throughout the country cannot keep pace with the demand for meal; and that all the tonnage which can be procured in the ports of America is insufficient to insure a timely supply.

MESMERISM.

La Roy Sunderland, one of the high priests of this science or humbug, has been delivering lectures upon this subject during the last week. He contemplates, we believe, to continue them, if he can obtain full audiences. A lady of our acquaintance was at one of his afternoon lectures for females, and she says he "*passed*," over several ladies, to put them to sleep, in a most disgusting manner. But if Mr. Sunderland can do one-tenth of what he says he can, to destroy pain and remove human infirmities, we would tolerate even the pawing, provided it be necessary.

ENTIRELY IGNORANT.

Our country brethren "of the Quills and Scissors" must sometimes receive queer communications, as we judge from the following paragraph which we found in the "Gazette and Union," published at Portsmouth, N. H.:—

"The person who wrote to us from up in Vermont for information as to whether his great-grand mother, Hannah Gould, left a fortune in England, is respectfully informed that we never had the honor of the old lady's acquaintance, and are entirely ignorant of her pecuniary affairs at the time of her decease."

BATHOS, NOT BEAUTY.

Every now and then we meet with some piece of bathos going the rounds, under the head of "Beautiful Extract." The last we have seen, is from an address delivered in the Louisiana Legislature, announcing the death of Senator Barrow. This "beautiful passage," as some papers call it, concludes as follows. We think the idea ludicrous rather than beautiful:—

"There is a God whose arm is around the orphan, and the widow's tears drop in the hollow of His hand."

ENCORES.

Gov. O'Donnell of Havana, has prohibited encores at Concerts, under penalty of fifteen days imprisonment.

If the people of Havana are as foolish as the Philadelphians in this respect, the Governor did perfectly right. To encore one or two of the finest songs at a concert, is in good taste, but not to encore everything and every body, without regard to the quality of the performance.

AN EXTRACT.

The following splendid verse is found in a letter written by "Grace Greenwood":—

"Their music was no lulling strain,
Drawn from a silken chord—
Their light no moonbeam, that wakes not
The insects of the sward,—
But the thunder of high Heaven,
And the lightning of the Lord!"

LARGE EGG.

Ellwood Michener writes us from Horsham, Pa., as follows:—

"In looking over your paper, I saw an account of an egg measuring six and a quarter inches one way, and seven and a quarter the other. While reading this, I thought of an egg that I had gathered. I measured it, and it was six and a quarter inches one way, and seven and five-eighths the other. Beat this who can!"

UNPALATABLE TRUTHS.

A Mexican officer of high rank, by the name of Requena, has been disgraced by Santa Anna for his habitual indulgence in high encomiums upon the prowess, physical strength, and skill in the use of arms, of the American troops. He was accustomed, it is alleged, even to give it as his opinion that it was *impossible* for so inferior a people as the Mexicans, to conquer such enemies.

ADVANCE IN PRICES.

It is supposed that the increased prices of cotton and bread-stuffs, are equivalent upon the whole stock of these articles in this country, to twenty millions of dollars. If this be the case, well can our farmers and planters afford to be charitable towards those, the failures of whose crops have caused such a great advance in prices.

JUST DECREE.

The Pope has issued a decree, by which convicts are no longer permitted to work for tradesmen, to the injury of free and honest workmen, who are unable to manufacture articles at the low rates charged for them by prisoners. Without we Protestants take care, the Catholics under their new Pope will leave us in the back ground.

THAT LETTER.

General Gaines, it is stated, was *not* the person to whom Gen. Taylor's letter was addressed, neither is he responsible for its publication. It is now said to have been sent to a "near relative" of the General, and most probably published "upon deliberate consideration, by the General's friends."

ALTERATION OF TARIFF.

Our readers will perceive by reference to our Congressional column that the Secretary of the Treasury recommends an increase of duties on Coal, Iron, Sugar, &c., and a decrease on axes, hammers, &c.—also a duty of fifteen per cent. on Tea and Coffee.

New Publications.

AMERICAN POULTERER'S COMPANION. By C. N. Bement. Fifth Edition. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia. This is a practical treatise on the breeding, rearing, fattening and general management of the various species of domestic poultry, with illustrations and portraits taken from life. From what examination we have been able to give it, we should say it was a most excellent work. It is embellished with an engraving of Queen Victoria's poultry-house, which is quite a stylish affair.

THE HUGUENOT—A TALE OF THE FRENCH PROTESTANTS. By G. P. R. James. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Lindsay and Blakiston, Philadelphia. Those of James's novels that we have read, have been perfectly unexceptionable—and, if the English correspondent of the Mirror is to be believed, having read one or two of his works, we are well qualified to give our opinion of all. This is a cheap edition, two volumes in one, price twenty-five cents.

GAMES. "The Game of American Story and Glory," and "The Game of English Blood Royal," are the names of two games that have been sent to us by Wm. Chauncy Langdon, New Orleans. Such games are often very instructive, and when instruction can be combined with amusement, "two birds are killed with one stone."

LIVES OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS AND AMERICUS VESPUCIUS. Harper & Brothers, New York. For sale by Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia. This volume is intended as the first of a series of the lives of distinguished persons, adapted to the understanding of the young.

COMSTOCK'S PHONETIC MAGAZINE. We have received the February number of this periodical. Mr. Comstock carries on the war vigorously, in support of his new mode of spelling.

PICTORIAL HISTORY OF ENGLAND. We have received through Messrs. Lindsay & Blakiston, No. 16 of Harper's edition of this admirable work.

CHAMBERS'S INFORMATION FOR THE PEOPLE. G. B. Zieber & Co., the publishers, have issued No. 10 of their reprint of this valuable work.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. We are indebted to M. Canning & Co., No. 272 Chesnut Street, for No. 142 of the Age.

HARPER'S ILLUSTRATED SHAKSPEARE. Lindsay & Blakiston have received Nos. 131 and 132 of this work.

Local Intelligence.

GIRARD COLLEGE.

By the 14th Annual Report of the Building Committee and Architect of the Girard College for orphans, submitted to the City Councils, we observe that the College is expected to be completed during the present year.

The interior of the main edifice and of the outbuildings, will in all probability be finished in April or May, and the regulation of the grounds and introduction of the water will engage the attention of the Committee as soon as the weather will permit. These, with the ceiling of the portico, and a few minor details, comprise all that remains to be done, before the building will be ready to receive its furniture.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

Last Sunday afternoon, between four and five o'clock, the extensive leather establishment of W. W. Keen & Co., No. 61 Chesnut street, was entirely destroyed by fire. The wall of the building in falling, damaged the adjoining house very much. Several firemen were also injured, though not, we believe, seriously.

THE DRY DOCK.

Our citizens will rejoice to learn that there is at length, a fair prospect of securing a Dry Dock at this port.

BOARD OF HEALTH.—The number of deaths during the last week in this city were 129—47 adults and 82 children.

From the Seat of War

FROM THE ARMY.

OCCUPATION OF VICTORIA—NO ATTACK UPON SALTILLO—NARROW ESCAPE OF COLONEL MAY, WITH THE LOSS OF HIS REAR-GUARD—CONTEMPLATED LAND ATTACK ON VERA CRUZ.

"The Brig Georgian has arrived at New Orleans from Tampico, which place she left on the 14th. Col. Kinney arrived there two days previous, direct from Victoria with despatches from Gen. Taylor to Gen. Shields to suspend operations for the present. He had entered Victoria with Gen. Quitman on the 9th. Gen. Quitman in his advance drove the Mexicans before him for thirty or forty miles before entering Victoria. The Mexicans were very reluctant to give up the place, but they evacuated it on one side, as Gen. Quitman with his force was entering the other. It was impossible to pursue the fugitives, as Gen. Q. has no cavalry.

"Col. Kinney parted with General Taylor at Monte Morales and pushed on with Quitman's brigade to Victoria and thence to Tampico.

"There was no reason to suppose that Generals Worth and Butler had moved from Saltillo, though it was so reported. It is believed that the main Mexican army was not far off from that place, though the Mexican soldiers seen in the neighborhood are now supposed to have been the advanced parties of some 1,500 or 2,000 men kept in position on this side of the desert between Saltillo and San Luis Potosi to destroy the water tanks in case the American army should move forward in force upon San Luis. This precludes the idea of any serious attack upon Gen. Worth or Gen. Wool, as the object of the Mexicans seems only to keep watch on the movements of our forces and to retreat immediately upon an advance in order to cut off the supplies of water.

"Col. Kinney brought a rumor to Tampico that 15,000 Mexicans were to attack Saltillo on the 27th of Dec., and verbal news was brought by the Georgiana to New Orleans to the effect that Santa Anna has placed himself between General Taylor and Gen. Worth with a force of 35,000 men, and that a general action was immediately expected. This is probably merely a repetition of the rumors which reached us some time since by way of Matamoras. From private letters, however, there seems little doubt that a large body of Mexican forces principally cavalry, were at Tula at the last dates, under Gen. Valencia. Generals Urrea, Romero and Fernandez, are also reported to be in that vicinity.

"On the 1st of January, Gen. Taylor sent forward Col. May, with a small detachment of dragoons, to examine the mountain pass between Monte Morales and Labradores. On his return he took another pass leading to Linares, and was attacked by a body of the enemy. His rear guard was cut off by rolling stones from the overhanging heights into the pass, which was scarcely wide enough for a single horseman to ride through.

"Col. May, with characteristic bravery and decision, managed to force his way through the pass with the main body of his command, and reached a spot where they were able to dismount and return to the succor of their companions of the rear guard. But they arrived too late, as the enemy had retreated, carrying off their prisoners. At one time, while in the gorge of the pass, the dragoons were almost at the mercy of the enemy, and would have suffered severely had the latter discharged their pieces with accuracy from the position which they occupied, which was almost directly over the heads of our troops. Col. May's loss was seven men, and seven pack mules.

"There can be no doubt that General Taylor with Twiggs, Patterson and Pillow, are now at Victoria with a large force.

"General Shields with 650 men marched from Tampico on the 10th toward Altamora. The object of this movement was supposed to be to open a communication with General Taylor at Victoria. There were from two to three thousand Mexican troops between these two places, with which it was by no way improbable, Gen. Shields may have the good fortune to engage. The force remaining in Tampico for its protection, amounted to nine hundred and fifty men.

"The Tampico market is amply supplied with American merchandize.

"Col. Kinney states that the Mexican force at San Luis amounts to 30,000 men, and estimates their entire force in the field at 50,000.

"He states that the capture of Tampico created the greatest excitement throughout the country.

"Gen. Worth had with Butler and Wool at Saltillo, 8,000 men, considered the very flower of our Army. Col. K. speaks confidently of success in case of an engagement.

"Gen. Taylor and Gen. Patterson were at Victoria, had 6,000 men, and were awaiting orders from Gen. Scott.

"It was thought that there would be no movement towards San Luis, at least for the present, but that all the mountain passes would be retained, and Vera Cruz subjugated by a land attack, as soon as Gen. Scott arrived to assume the command.

"The tow boat Phoenix, having attached the ships Manchester and Ironsides, and the barque Leontine, exploded her boilers, at the S. W. pass on the 21st ult., killing about twenty persons, and badly wounding a number of others."

FROM YUCATAN.

Advices from Merida to the 3d ult. have been received by the New York Sun. Governor General Barbachano announces the capture of Laguna and the Island of Carmen by the Americans, and orders the place to be placed in a state of defence.

Defences of all kinds were going on at Merida with the utmost activity. Every church was pierced with loop-holes for musketry, as well as the public buildings—the whole indicating the probability of a stout resistance in case of an attack by our forces.

FROM MEXICO.

It does not seem yet to be certainly ascertained, what course the Mexican Congress have pursued relative to the propositions of peace made by the United States. The following items of news are derived from late sources:—

"A court martial has been ordered upon General Parodi for abandoning Tampico.

"The priest seized by General Taylor at Monterey, for encouraging American soldiers to desert, recently made his escape. Every step in his flight is chronicled with delight by the Mexicans, and they are lavish in their expressions of regard for him.

"General Ampudia is on trial for his conduct at Monterey. Some of the Mexican editors, not content with denouncing his cowardice as displayed in the late campaign, call to mind his shocking inhumanity towards the late General Santmanat, and taunt him with his villainous brutality.

"Gomez Farias, the newly elected Vice President, uses the following language in his address to the Mexican Congress:—

"The war which the nation is forced to sustain against the Republic of North America shall be prosecuted with valor and constancy, until the justice of our cause be recognized, and our territory be evacuated."

"A division of 5,000 troops, of all arms, had been detached from the main body of the enemy to occupy the pass of Tula. The movement is announced in a paper of Guanajuato as early as the 15th ult., and the composition of the force is given particularly. There is little room to doubt the movement therefore. It betrays apprehension lest the American General should seek to penetrate immediately to San Luis.

"Opinions are divided amongst the Mexicans whether General Taylor will seek to advance upon San Luis from Tampico or from Saltillo; that he designs the advance, they think hardly admits of a doubt. They give most minute details of the movement of our troops in Tamaulipas, and are surprisingly accurate as to our numbers."

FROM SANTA FE.—The St. Josephs (Mo.) Gazette contains the following extract of a letter from Santa Fe. The St. Louis Reveille places no reliance whatever in the rumor. It says:—"We place no reliance whatever on the rumor. A city has never yet been occupied by an invading force without similar panics being spread. A strange climate, confinement, and a lack of usual comforts, we think, will sufficiently account for any illness which may prevail."

"There is a rumor in the city to-day that the Spaniards have poisoned the flour and meal used by the army, which is said to be the cause of so many deaths. The poison consists of some vegetable substance, with not enough strength in it to produce instant death, but just enough to derange the digestive organs, and prevent medicine from operating on the system. If the rumor should prove true, it will be difficult to prevent acts of violence. If true the wretches must die."

Clippings.

☞ A wedding took place the other day in the streets of Penn Yan, Yates county, New York, the Squire who officiated being called from his office while trying a suit. The fair bride has been married to *eight husbands!*

☞ Prince Albert was blaming a little boy at Eton for not having learnt more at his age. "It's not my fault, sir," replied the young dunce, "for we have a holiday every time a new prince is born."

☞ The Washington Whig, (North Carolina,) announces a marriage, and in the obituary list of the same paper is a notice of the death of the bridegroom, six days after.

☞ A letter from a Missionary at Hong Kong, dated Oct. 29th, says:—"Canton is a bad place, ten times more closed against the Gospel than it was two years ago."

☞ The Hon. Caleb Cushing has decided to accept the command of the Massachusetts regiment of volunteers, and is immediately to be commissioned.

☞ The Nantucket Inquirer says the light of the fire in Boston, was seen by the watch in both the towers of that place. The distance is about ninety miles.

☞ Eleven births took place among a deck-load of emigrants, during their passage from New Orleans to the mouth of the Ohio a short time since.

☞ The St. Louis Republican, after a detailed investigation of the losses by river accidents during last year, sets them down at $1,000,000.

☞ It is stated that Washington Irving is about to republish his works complete, with notes, after the manner of Walter Scott's novels.

☞ A piano has been made in London for the use of Tom Thumb, on a scale suited to the capabilities of the diminutive hero.

☞ Four hundred Choctaw Indians arrived at Fort Coffee, Ark., in the early part of last month from Vicksburg, Miss.

☞ Miss Susan Cushman, the actress, it is said is about to be married to a young gentleman of Liverpool.

☞ Lyell, the geologist, asserts that there is more coal in the single State of Illinois than in all Europe.

☞ There have been ten deaths of missionaries' wives in China, within four years past.

☞ Cassius Clay's company of Kentucky Cavalry have arrived at Monterey.

☞ The February interest of Pennsylvania is being duly paid.

General News.

REMARKABLE PHENOMENON.—The waters of Lake Ontario, on the 5th ultimo, at Grafton Harbor, Canada, suddenly receded from the shore in one immense wave, upwards of *three hundred and fifty feet*, leaving the beach dry for that distance. The water then seemed to gather itself into a vast cone, and immediately returned in one unbroken wave, four feet higher than it usually is, burying the wharf completely, accompanied by a dreadful noise. This occurred eight or nine times, gradually decreasing in violence, until the lake resumed its usual appearance. The same phenomenon was observed in 1845. Some writers suggested then that it was an earthquake, the main force of which was spent in some far off region, but as there was no accounts of such a catastrophe bearing a corresponding date, that idea was given up. Others thought it was plainly attributable to an emission of a vast volume of steam or gas, swelling and dividing the waters from its vortex. The late occurrence will set speculation afloat again.

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE.—The Regents of the Smithsonian Institute have determined—

"1. To offer premiums in money for the best original papers containing positive additions to human knowledge.

"2. To pay for making researches in such sciences as they may select for their investigation.

"3. To publish the papers that may be accepted and the results of the researches that may be ordered.

"4. To publish popular and brief accounts of the movements of the Institute.

"5. To establish and pay for free lectures to be delivered on useful subjects.

"6. To establish a Museum of Natural Science and the Elegant Arts, and a Library of works in all the departments of human knowledge.

"7. To publish a biography of Mr. Smithson, to be written by the Vice President of the United States.

"8. To establish exhibitions of new discoveries in science and the useful arts, to be given by the Secretary and his assistant."

PARLIAMENTARY MACHINE.—The Trenton *Daily News* has a description of a machine invented by Francis Karl Goffin, a convict for house robbing in the New Jersey State Prison. The purpose of the machine is to take the Yeas and Nays in legislative bodies. Members vote by pulling a knob connected with the machine, of which two are attached to the desks, one for Yeas and one for Nays. The Clerk then turns a small crank, and certain figures appear to him by which each man's vote is reported, all in the space of a single minute, with perfect accuracy. There is said to be no possibility of its getting out of order in a million times working. All that is now necessary is to invent machines for making speeches and doing the voting, and then the whole business of legislation may be conducted without delay or mistake.

COUNTING CHICKENS, &c.—A New York paper contains the following advertisement:—

"A lady about becoming a mother is desirous of giving the infant from its birth to some family having no children, to bring up in all respects as their own. She is of Italian birth, twenty years of age, remarkably healthy, of refined education, prepossessing personal appearance, and regular features, who became a widow about four months since, and is anxious to return to her own country. Montesque, Lower N. Y. Post Office."

MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.—The new line of wire erected along the railroad between this city and New York, was placed in operation for the first time on Saturday last.

WOMEN AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

"Somebody extols the women of Pennsylvania, who it appears have lately held meetings at which they have prattled, very prettily, doubtless, about the abolition of capital punishment. They had much better be discussing the merits of apple and plain suet dumplings, or the good taste of dressing neatly and unostentatiously, rather than showily and expensively. What have women to do with capital punishment?"—*Exchange Paper.*

Upon the above attempt to be witty, the Public Ledger justly comments as follows:—

"As women are liable to be hanged in Pennsylvania, we think, they have a great deal to do with capital punishment. One is now under sentence of death in this city. Suet dumplings and apple puddings may be very interesting subjects for discussion, but in order to enjoy them properly, it is quite necessary that the women should keep their necks in a condition to be able to swallow them."

THE THREE MILLIONS.

The three millions' bill has been called up in the Senate by Mr. Sevier. The following important statement was made by him in the course of his remarks. He said, "that the object was to secure a peace, the President being willing to conclude a treaty if Mexico would give us New Mexico and Upper California." After some remarks from Mr. Miller the bill was postponed for a few days. Then, probably, will come "the tug of war."

CORN DEARER THAN WHEAT.

It is one of the remarkable results of the famine in Ireland, where Indian corn has measurably taken the place of the potato, that the corn was selling considerably higher than the best wheat; 70s. per quarter being the price for Indian corn, and 60s. per quarter for wheat! The great ease and greater variety of ways of preparing Indian corn for food, may account in part for this preference.

REPORT CONTRADICTED.

The Union has the following contradiction of a report from the army:—

"The report that Santa Anna has placed himself between General Taylor and General Worth, with 35,000 men, &c., is not confirmed by the last despatches from General Taylor. A letter from Gen. Jessup, received last night, expressly contradicts it."

FALSE RUMOR.

The recent rumor that the Mexican Congress had agreed to receive an American minister to treat for peace, and had sent a messenger to Gen. Taylor to that effect, is entitled to no credit. Official despatches, of a late date, from Gen. Taylor, do not allude to any thing of the kind.

MONROE EDWARDS.

We learn from the N. Y. Tribune that this person died on Friday morning of last week, in the Prison Hospital at Sing Sing, of consumption, after an illness of only about three weeks. He was a man of fine abilities, but of a depraved heart.

A MAN OF ALL WORK.—Commodore Stockton is not only the Governor of California, but he is also the religious comforter and adviser. The Polynesian, of August 1st, devotes three columns to the publication of a Sermon preached on the afternoon of the 28th June, before the Rev. Mr. Armstrong's congregation, by Commodore Robert F. Stockton of the United States Navy! Rev. Mr. Armstrong interpreted the gallant Commodore's talk to the natives as delivered.

A HORRIBLE MASSACRE.—The British Government has lately received information from its agents on the western coast of Africa, of a frightful occurrence, which, however, is not so novel in the annals of slavery. A negro chief having 2,000 slaves upon his hands, and being unable to dispose of them, had them all killed before his own eyes. The French Government has also been made acquainted with this horrible massacre.

KENTUCKY U. S. SENATOR.—The Legislature of Kentucky had three unsuccessful ballottings last week for a United States Senator to serve six years after the 4th of March next, when Mr. Morehead's term expires. Underwood, Whig, received 44 votes, Letcher, Whig, 36; Metcalfe, Whig, 12; and Hawes, Democrat, 46. It requires 70 votes to elect.

Miscellaneous.

THE STATE LEGISLATURE.—*Occupations of its Members.*—The House of Representatives of our State Legislature contains fifty-one farmers, twelve lawyers, five merchants, four carpenters, three surveyors and scrivener, three blacksmiths, three doctors, three printers, two cabinet makers, two innkeepers, two shoemakers, one tinsmith, one conveyancer, one saddler, one miller, one artist, one tailor, one teacher, one stone mason, one cooper and guager, and one vacant. The agricultural interest is the most strongly represented, having an absolute majority over all others.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS.—In the reign of Henry the Eighth, it is affirmed that no fewer than seventy-two thousand criminals were hanged. Sir Thomas More describes them as hung up by scores all over the country. Even in the days of "Good Queen Bess," the executions were from three to four hundred annually. People were then hung for almost every species of crime; and yet those who remained unhung were no better that the gallows had so many victims. Of late years, however, law makers have acknowledged the truth that the worst use a man is to hang him.

THE NEWSPAPER.—A newspaper is a perfect history of the times. It is a record of events transpiring in the place of its publication, in the State, the nation and the world. Every family should carefully preserve their newspapers, and have them bound in convenient volumes at the end of the year. They will thus have a most valuable and costly history of the world for the mere subscription to the paper, and the cost of binding. Such a history carries with it a thousand interesting reminiscences. Save your papers.

AN "INCORPORATION."—European papers laugh at the term "annexation," which was employed in this country on taking Texas into the Union, but they have a way there of applying softening phrases which far exceeds anything we have yet reached. The Austrian government calls the act of taking Cracow an "incorporation." It is suggested by Punch that for the future thieves should say when they are taken up for stealing a pocket handkerchief, "why, my lord, I merely incorporated it."

QUICK WITTED.—It is stated in a foreign journal that the valet of the Archbishop of Vienna went mad the other day, and rushed into his master's room with a razor, declaring that Jesus Christ had ordered him to cut the archbishop's throat. The archbishop desired the man to pray before he executed the command. The servant complied, when the archbishop slipped from the room and the madman was secured.

TRUE NOBILITY.—The Duke de Luynes, who inhabits the Chateau Dampierre, in the environs of Versailles, has recently given a hundred thousand francs to the sufferers by the inundations in France. The Duke de Luynes has an income of 1,500,000 francs a year; and devotes every year 500,000 to deeds of benevolence and as many more to the encouragement of the fine arts.

A TAILOR'S REVENGE.—The *Revue Canadienne* says that a tailor having tried in vain to obtain payment for a suit of clothes, learned that the unlucky debtor was going to a stylish party on a certain night, when he and some friends lay in wait and drawing their victim into a gateway, stripped him to his shirt, and then calling a cab put him into it, and desired the driver to take him to his destination.

A FAMISHING COMMUNITY.—At Galway, Ireland, strong forces were employed to keep the famishing multitude in order. A Yankee captain who took out a cargo of corn, says, while taking it from the ship the poor followed the drays in hundreds, picking up and eating the odd grains of raw corn that fell on the pavement.

STARVATION.—The accounts of deaths from starvation in Ireland are most sickening. Nearly a column of a London paper is occupied with statements of *this end* to individual misery. "Died for want of food"—"Died of starvation"—"Died from utter destitution"—these are the verdicts continually rendered.

A WIRY PULSE.—The newspapers contain an account of a physician holding a consultation with his patient some fifty miles apart, through the Electric Telegraph. The physician told the patient that he must take care of himself, as he found he had a very "wiry pulse."

GOOD TOAST.—A toast lately given at the Shoe and Leather Manufacturers' supper, at Danvers, was as follows:—"May they have all the women in the country to *shoe*, and the men *to boot.*"

CHRISTMAS CAKE.—A cake was made at Nashville, on Christmas, which weighed half a ton.

Notwithstanding it was so heavy, it is said to have been very *light.*

United States SATURDAY POST.

TRAVELLING AGENTS.

Mr. C. W. JAMES, of Harrison street, Cincinnati, Ohio, is our Agent for Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, and Wisconsin Territories. [Powell, Smith, & Gardner, Cincinnati. T. T. Smedley, Jr. & Co., Indianapolis. and Wilcox & Hooper.

JOHN MIAMI, Omaha, Flint and West

JNO. F. ROBERTS, appointed by Mr. M. Simmons, for Kentucky.

Mr. HENRY M. LEWIS is our Agent for Alabama and Mississippi.

Mr. E. E. JAMES is Agent for the Southern and Western States, and Canada, and Nova Scotia, and for the following Cities, viz: Boston and Worcester, Mass., Albany, Rochester, Buffalo, Utica, Syracuse, and Troy, N. Y., Philadelphia, Pa., Baltimore, Md., Washington, D. C., Richmond, Va., Petersburg, Va., Raleigh, N. C., Charleston, S. C., Savannah, Ga., Augusta, Ga., Columbus, Ga., Montgomery, Ala., Mobile, Ala., New Orleans, La., Natchez, Miss., Vicksburg, Miss., Memphis, Tenn., Louisville, Ky., Cincinnati, Ohio, Wheeling, Va., Pittsburgh, Pa., Cleveland, Ohio, Detroit, Mich., Chicago, Ill., Quincy, Ill., St. Louis, Mo., Alton, Ill., Galena, Ill., Dubuque, Iowa, Davenport, Iowa, Rock Island, Ill., Milwaukie, Wisconsin, Toronto, Canada West, Montreal, Canada East, Quebec, Canada East, Halifax, Nova Scotia, St. John, New Brunswick.

THOMAS SEVERN WOOD is our Travelling Agent for New York.

WILLIAM A. PIERCE collects for us in Penn.

JAMES REED is our Travelling Agent in New Jersey.

ISAAC S. HOWLEY will receive subscribers and subscriptions for this paper in the State of New York.

From Washington.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

SENATE.

On the 27th ult., the Committee on Private Land Claims reported a resolution requesting the President to suspend the land sales advertised to take place on the 8th of March next at Dubuque. Laid on the table.

The Customary Note Bill was then read a third time and passed—year 42, nays 5—Messrs. Colley and Cornwell.

The Post-office Committee reported a joint resolution to prevent the franking privilege of the mails to and from the army in Mexico.

Mr. Atherton presented a memorial by Mr. Colley, to withdraw the troops from Mexico, was taken up, and after some remarks from the mover in explanation, was laid upon the table by a vote—ayes 30—nays none. Mr. Calhoun was not present.

On the 28th ult. Mr. Upham presented the resolutions adopted by the Legislature of Vermont against the Mexican war, and the acquisition of slave territory.

Mr. Cameron presented a memorial from citizens of Pennsylvania, praying for the speedy close of the formation of a colony in Oregon, and offering to settle further difficulties in Mexico.

On the 29th ult. Mr. Morehead presented a memorial from the widow of a daily Cincinnati paper, asking a pension. A brief history was given, when a company for the extension of the Magnetic Telegraph across the Atlantic Ocean, was formed in Portsoken Committee.

The Committee on Foreign Relations reported a bill creating the office of Assistant Secretary of State.

A resolution was adopted requesting the President to ascertain the value of the land claim in the place at Dubuque, and the claims of the heirs of the Dubuque estate and descendants.

On the 30th ult. Mr. Jarnagin introduced a joint resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to Gen. Taylor and his army for their gallantry in Monterey.

The Army bill was then taken up.

The amendment of Mr. Hannegan, offered the day before which was pending when the Senate adjourned, was agreed to.

It grants one hundred and sixty acres of land to all who serve twelve months, unless sooner discharged by injuries or wounds, and to the widow of killed or dying of wounds received in battle, to go to wife or child, or father, or mother, or legal representatives.

An amendment was adopted providing that the land so granted shall not be sold for five years, but shall be actually settled and cultivated, not interfere with any other rights.

After debate, the amendment was agreed to—ayes 30 to 20.

Mr. Johnson moved to add a section, giving each volunteer in the war, bounty land, whether killed or dying of wounds received in battle, to go to wife or child, or father, or mother, or legal representatives.

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After several ineffectual motions to adjourn, Mr. Johnson renewed his amendment, giving the soldier the option of taking one hundred and sixty acres or a treasury certificate for one hundred and sixty bearing six per cent. interest, payable semi-annually, redeemable at the pleasure of the Government. Agreed to—ayes 30.

On motion of Mr. Benton, the bill was amended so as to provide that the lands shall not go into the hands of speculators or assignees, but to the actual settler. Yeas 21—nays 18.

The bill on motion of Mr. Benton, was further amended, so as to provide for two quarter-masters, one assistant quarter-master and one regimental quartermaster for each regiment, the latter to be appointed by the Regimental Staff.

On the 1st inst. a communication was received from the Secretary of War in reply to Mr. Cameron's resolution of the 5th of January last. It recommends the following increase of duties, viz: on coffee, on the pre-emid. on cocoa, on chicory and cassareno, coating over four dollars the square yard, on blankets, on cotton, white and colored cotton, twenty per cent.; cotton paints, over thirty cents the square yard, blue pilot cloths, cotton or printed, over twenty cents the square yard, flannels, over and not while and all kind, forty per cent.

Those increased duties the Secretary estimates will produce $1,474,000 additional revenue. He also recommends an increase of duties on all manufactures of iron, hammers, chisels, ploughshares and cotton gins; not raising more than eight cents per square yard; and estimates this increase will produce and increase the revenue $650,000. The tax on tea and coffee is also recommended. But the bill recommended to lighten per cent., and to be laid on the same footing as the tax on manufactures of iron.

The bill was passed into the Executive session and adjourned on the 2nd to being re-opened.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 27th ult. Mr. King of Georgia, submitted a resolution, directing the Secretary of War to cause gold and silver medals for the officers and men of the Florida, Spanish and Flagship, in regard to the meaning the seamen of the U. S. brig Somers adopted.

The bill to increase the pay and grant bounty lands to the regular and volunteers in the army, was taken up and passed by a vote of 108 to 74—ayes to 14 nays.

Mr. Thompson moved a suspension of the rules to permit him to introduce his resolution relative to the validity of the claim to the east of the Rio Grande. Negatived by a vote of 78 yeas to 110 nays.

The Senate's amendments to the Treasury Note bill were then agreed to, with the exception, each of the signature of the President to become a law.

On the 28th ult. the consideration of the Army Appropriation Bill was resumed in Committee of the Whole.

The bill was then reported to the House and the same Senate concurred in, including an appropriation of $50,000 for the feeding of the poor in Ireland, and $50,000 each for clerks at Kittery and Philadelphia—the place to be filled by appointment by the Secretary of the Navy. The vote on this amendment stood year 95, nays 81.

On the 30th ult a motion to suspend the rules to enable Mr. Foster of Tennessee to introduce a resolution ning joint resolutions, was the business first in order.

Resolved unanimously, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby presented to Major General Zachary Taylor, and through him to the brave officers and soldiers of both of the regular army and of the volunteer under his command, for the gallantry, skill, fortitude, and good conduct in storming the city of Monterey, defended as it was by a force more than double their number, and protected by the strongest fortifications; and for the signal victory they have won by one army, and reflected imperishable honor upon our country.

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause to be struck a gold medal with devices commemorative of this splendid achievement, and presented to General Taylor, as a testimony of the high sense entertained by Congress of his gallant and distinguished conduct on that memorable occasion.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be transmitted a copy of these resolutions to Gen. Taylor, and through him to the army under his command.

Objection being made to the reception of the resolution, Mr. Foster moved a suspension of the rules.

The question was taken up by yeas and nays, and decided in the negative, 78 to 110—so the resolutions were received and read twice, when Mr. Foster, of Illinois, moved to amend the first, by adding the following:

Engaged as it was and still is in a war, unprovoked and unjust on the part of the United States, and conducted by us in defiance of the honor, and in violation of the just rights of the Mexican people, as well as both had been by repeated and flagrant acts on the part of Mexico, in the invasion and occupation of one of the States of this Union.

This amendment Mr. Thompson, of Mississippi, moved still further to amend, by adding the following and protest—

Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed into an approbation of the terms of the capitulation of Monterey.

The amendment to the amendment was accepted by Mr. Foster, and the amendment as amended thus adopted by the House—yeas 115, nays 79.

The vote by which the House refused to take up and the resolutions as amended to a third reading, was then decided in the affirmative—yeas 114, nays 80.

The resolutions were accordingly read a third time and passed by the House, and then decided in the negative by a large majority.

The resolutions were then passed—yeas 107, nays 87.

Mr. Cocke the original mover, were moved to amend the title so that it should read a resolution of censure, instead of a resolution of thanks, to Gen. Taylor, his officers and men. This motion, however, was decided in the negative—year 1, nays 187.

Mr. Thompson, of Mississippi, moved a reconsideration of the vote to enable him to introduce a resolution calling on the President for all correspondence with General Taylor which had not yet been published. also, with the Quarter Master General, in relation to transportation at or for Gen. Taylor's army; and also, the reports of Generals Harney and Quitman, 31st of September, of the operations under their respective brigades.

The year and nays were ordered, and the rules suspended, 144 to 39. Having been read, Mr. Ashmun moved to amend the resolution by including a call for all information relative to the return of Santa Anna from Havana to Mexico, so far as the President was connected therewith, whether we have now any diplomatic representative on board the ship where his functions cease, and if we have, who, and what his compensation?

Mr. Ashmun made a speech in support of his amendment, and charged the Administration with hostility to General Taylor. Mr. Thompson replied, insisting that the acts of the President proved the contrary.

On the 1st inst. Mr. Thompson's resolution calling upon the President for all the correspondence with Gen. Taylor, not heretofore published, came up for consideration. Mr. Atherton's amendment was rejected by a vote of 98 to 99.

A motion to lay the resolution on the table was negatived, 89 to 125, and it was then adopted, 101 to 93.

The bill from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported by C. J. Ingersoll, then came up, but was on motion, postponed to postpone the consideration until Monday.

Preston King proposed an amendment prohibiting slavery in the new territory acquired, but it was laid upon the table—ayes 97, nays 81. Ingersoll's motion prevailed.

Robert Chapman submitted a resolution calling for information why the Alabama Regiments was required to go to the Rio Grande and not marched to Monterey, to participate in that battle; and why Capt Jno McDuff was deprived of his command and appointed to the Staff, and why he was kept without a court martial. The resolution was adopted without debate.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union in the different provinces of the union, on which every kind of climate exists.

A Good Idea.—"My son," said an old orthodox Quaker one day, taking his child by the hand in the streets of Cairo, and pointing out to him the opposite side, a Frenchman, just imported, in all the elegance of Parisian costume, "My son, if ever you forget God and His prophet, you must promise to look like that!"

The Friends.—The Society of Friends, ever foremost in the march of benevolence, are setting a splendid example to the English public, in behalf of the destitute in Ireland. They have already raised amongst their leading members about £15,000, and there is little doubt but that the subscription will amount to £20,000.

Anti Emigration.—The Prussian government has, in order to check emigration to this country, decided that the crown lands in Prussia and Posen, shall be sold. The leases fall in the years 1847, 1848, and 1849, shall be set apart for persons who would otherwise be disposed to emigrate.

Mass Meeting in the Park.—The Pope of Rome has granted a large amnesty to his people at his slipper, consumedly called "kissing the Pope's toe," and natural, extends his hand to be kissed. Not so in Ireland. They have already raised amongst their leading members about £15,000, and there is little doubt but that the subscription will amount to £20,000.

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Mr. Gould (Agriculture) reported adversely to the petitions of Charles Campbell, asking for the appointment of an inspector of beef and pork in Philadelphia, which report, on motion of Mr. *Bell* was ordered to lie.

Mr. Harris (Maine), reported a bill to exempt from the draft, but, for a certain time, the property of the volunteers who have gone to Mexico, also, to provide for additional pensions to the widows of volunteers in the existing war with Mexico, with a recommendation that it do not pass.

The bill to incorporate the Pennsylvania Railroad from Harrisburg Company of Blair county, was taken up, and on second reading, all the sections relating to the capital stock which being under consideration, makes the stockholders of the said company individually liable for all debts due mechanics, laborers and laborers. Mr. Morris moved to make the liability general, so that farmers and all others be held liable. This was opposed by Messrs. Blair and Evans, and supported by Messrs. Knox, Fuller, Mike Strong, Meyers, Brodhead and Eghart, and then postponed.

The House resolution, relative to slavery, passed the Senate finally, after a few remarks from Mr. Atherton and Mr. Berrien, Messrs. Anderson, Black and Pettengrew.

On motion of Mr. Forsyth, a resolution was adopted, requiring the Committee on Foreign Relations to bring in a bill for the purpose of limiting the time when soldiers under the age of twenty-one shall be allowed to work in Manufactories.

The bill on motion of Mr. Benton, was further amended, so as to provide for two quarter-masters, one assistant quarter-master and one regimental quartermaster for each regiment, the latter to be appointed by the Regimental Staff.

On the 1st inst. a communication was received from the Secretary of War in reply to Mr. Cameron's resolution of the 5th of January last. It recommends the following increase of duties, viz: on coffee, on the pre-emid. on cocoa, on chicory and cassareno, coating over four dollars the square yard, on blankets, on cotton, white and colored cotton, twenty per cent.; cotton paints, over thirty cents the square yard, blue pilot cloths, cotton or printed, over twenty cents the square yard, flannels, over and not while and all kind, forty per cent.

Those increased duties the Secretary estimates will produce $1,474,000 additional revenue. He also recommends an increase of duties on all manufactures of iron, hammers, chisels, ploughshares and cotton gins; not raising more than eight cents per square yard; and estimates this increase will produce and increase the revenue $650,000. The tax on tea and coffee is also recommended. But the bill recommended to lighten per cent., and to be laid on the same footing as the tax on manufactures of iron.

The bill was passed into the Executive session and adjourned on the 2nd to being re-opened.

From Harrisburg.

PENN. LEGISLATURE.

The following are the most important items of business in the Pennsylvania Legislature since our last account:

The Bill providing for the Suppression of Gaming has passed through a second and third reading.

The bill relating to election districts, after being well loaded with amendments, passed.

Mr. Knox reported as committed, the bill exempting the real estate of Methodist Seminaries from the debts of their landowners.

The Judiciary presented one hundred and fifty two petitions, signed by three thousand citizens of the Commonwealth, praying for a law to legalize the qualified voters of each ward, township and borough, to vote for the Judges, Sheriffs, Coroners and Prothonotaries shall be granted thereby or not.

The Committee of Judiciary reported bill to allow the citizens of this commonwealth to vote at all elections in their respective districts for all officers to be elected.

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Political Intelligence

Iowa U. S. Senators.—The Legislature of Iowa, called to meet on joint session, on the 5th ult., to elect Senators on Congress. It is not probable, it is said, that any election will take place at that session. If this should be the result, the State will be without Senators for two years to come, because the next session of the Legislature will not be held until November, 1846, and the Governor cannot make temporary appointments, as the office never became vacant. Both are entitled to be said to have taken place.

Nomination of Judge McLean to the Presidency.—A correspondent of the Boston Courier in reply to Gen. Cass's resolution of the 5th of January last. It recommends the following increase of duties, viz: on coffee, on the pre-emid. on cocoa, on chicory and cassareno, coating over four dollars the square yard, on blankets, on cotton, white and colored cotton, twenty per cent.; cotton paints, over thirty cents the square yard, blue pilot cloths, cotton or printed, over twenty cents the square yard, flannels, over and not while and all kind, forty per cent.

Those increased duties the Secretary estimates will produce $1,474,000 additional revenue. He also recommends an increase of duties on all manufactures of iron, hammers, chisels, ploughshares and cotton gins; not raising more than eight cents per square yard; and estimates this increase will produce and increase the revenue $650,000. The tax on tea and coffee is also recommended. But the bill recommended to lighten per cent., and to be laid on the same footing as the tax on manufactures of iron.

The bill was passed into the Executive session and adjourned on the 2nd to being re-opened.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 27th ult. Mr. King of Georgia, submitted a resolution, directing the Secretary of War to cause gold and silver medals for the officers and men of the Florida, Spanish and Flagship, in regard to the meaning the seamen of the U. S. brig Somers adopted.

The bill to increase the pay and grant bounty lands to the regular and volunteers in the army, was taken up and passed by a vote of 108 to 74—ayes to 14 nays.

Mr. Thompson moved a suspension of the rules to permit him to introduce his resolution relative to the validity of the claim to the east of the Rio Grande. Negatived by a vote of 78 yeas to 110 nays.

The Senate's amendments to the Treasury Note bill were then agreed to, with the exception, each of the signature of the President to become a law.

On the 28th ult. the consideration of the Army Appropriation Bill was resumed in Committee of the Whole.

The bill was then reported to the House and the same Senate concurred in, including an appropriation of $50,000 for the feeding of the poor in Ireland, and $50,000 each for clerks at Kittery and Philadelphia—the place to be filled by appointment by the Secretary of the Navy. The vote on this amendment stood year 95, nays 81.

On the 30th ult a motion to suspend the rules to enable Mr. Foster of Tennessee to introduce a resolution ning joint resolutions, was the business first in order.

Resolved unanimously, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby presented to Major General Zachary Taylor, and through him to the brave officers and soldiers of both of the regular army and of the volunteer under his command, for the gallantry, skill, fortitude, and good conduct in storming the city of Monterey, defended as it was by a force more than double their number, and protected by the strongest fortifications; and for the signal victory they have won by one army, and reflected imperishable honor upon our country.

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause to be struck a gold medal with devices commemorative of this splendid achievement, and presented to General Taylor, as a testimony of the high sense entertained by Congress of his gallant and distinguished conduct on that memorable occasion.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be transmitted a copy of these resolutions to Gen. Taylor, and through him to the army under his command.

Objection being made to the reception of the resolution, Mr. Foster moved a suspension of the rules.

The question was taken up by yeas and nays, and decided in the negative, 78 to 110—so the resolutions were received and read twice, when Mr. Foster, of Illinois, moved to amend the first, by adding the following:

Engaged as it was and still is in a war, unprovoked and unjust on the part of the United States, and conducted by us in defiance of the honor, and in violation of the just rights of the Mexican people, as well as both had been by repeated and flagrant acts on the part of Mexico, in the invasion and occupation of one of the States of this Union.

This amendment Mr. Thompson, of Mississippi, moved still further to amend, by adding the following and protest—

Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed into an approbation of the terms of the capitulation of Monterey.

The amendment to the amendment was accepted by Mr. Foster, and the amendment as amended thus adopted by the House—yeas 115, nays 79.

The vote by which the House refused to take up and the resolutions as amended to a third reading, was then decided in the affirmative—yeas 114, nays 80.

The resolutions were accordingly read a third time and passed by the House, and then decided in the negative by a large majority.

The resolutions were then passed—yeas 107, nays 87.

Mr. Cocke the original mover, were moved to amend the title so that it should read a resolution of censure, instead of a resolution of thanks, to Gen. Taylor, his officers and men. This motion, however, was decided in the negative—year 1, nays 187.

Mr. Thompson, of Mississippi, moved a reconsideration of the vote to enable him to introduce a resolution calling on the President for all correspondence with General Taylor which had not yet been published, also, with the Quarter Master General,

Overshow of the Nile.—Information has just been received from Egypt by a respectable mercantile house in Belfast, that the overflowing of the Nile has carried away 93 villages in Lower Egypt, with all the produce they contained, including a very large quantity of flax. The government has not vigorously to work to repair the dykes. Nothing is said about people being drowned, which means they all escaped, or because they are of but little importance in Egypt.

Jews in Paris.—The first financier in Paris is Jaques Rothschild, just gone over to London, the first lawyer is Crement, another Israelite is the Jockey Club not a more influential less and twelve than Achille Fold, another, in the Chamber of Deputies the Jews have lately added five to their numbers; in music, Halevy is at the head of a hundred instrumentalists and composers, of more or less celebrity; in fact Paris is the Jerusalem of the nineteenth century.

Elect Burritt.—The learned blacksmith is making considerable sensation in England; he is a regular contributor to Douglas Jerrold's newspaper, and has made some important suggestions for the alleviation of the distresses of the Irish. Jerrold's paper has been highly successful, and has been increased one-third in size, making it the largest weekly newspaper now published in London.

Turkey Custom.—The Turkish Government has lately received valuable, if not flattering, information relative to the comparative value of cotton and silk. The Sultan, being fond of the elegance of Parisian costume. He sent to Paris for a tailor, who returned with a report that cotton was the best material for the climate, and that silk would not do. The Sultan, however, ordered a suit of silk, which was made, but when he put it on, he found it so uncomfortable that he refused to wear it, and ordered the tailor to be bastinadoed. The tailor, however, escaped

Selected Poetry.

THE WANDERING JEW.

FROM THE GERMAN BY C. T. BROOKS.

The Wandering Jew once said to me,
I passed through a city in the cool of the year;
A man in the garden plucked fruit from a tree.
I asked, "How long has the city been here?"
And he answered me, and he plucked away—
"It has always stood where it stands to-day,
And here it will stand forever and aye."
Five hundred years rolled by, and then
I travelled the selfsame road again.

No more of a city there I found;
A shepherd sat blowing his pipe alone,
His flock went quietly nibbling round.
I asked, "How long has the city been gone?"
And he answered me, and he piped away,—
"The new ones bloom and the old decay,
This is my pasture ground for aye."
Five hundred years rolled by, and then
I travelled the selfsame road again.

And I came to a sea, and the waves did roar,
And a fisherman threw his net out clear,
And, when heavy laden, he dragged it ashore.
I asked, "How long has the sea been here?
And he laughed and said, as he laughed away—
"As long as yon billows have tossed their spray
They've fished and they've fished in this selfsame bay."
Five hundred years rolled by, and then
I travelled the selfsame road again.

And I came to a forest, vast and free,
And a woodman stood in the thicket near—
His axe he laid at the foot of a tree.
I asked, "How long have the woods been here?"
And he answered, "These woods are a covert for aye;
My ancestors dwelt here alway,
And the trees have been here since creation's day."
Five hundred years rolled by, and then
I travelled the selfsame road again.

And I found there a city, and far and near
Resounded the hum of toil and glee,
And I asked, "How long has the city been here,
And where is the pipe, and the wood, and the sea?"
And they answered me, as they went their way—
"Things always have stood as they stand to day,
And so they will stand forever and aye."
I'll wait five hundred years, and then
I'll travel the selfsame road again.

For the Ladies.

FEMALE WITNESSES.

[We do not remember that we have ever published this story before, but if we have or not it scarcely matters, it is such a capital one.]

[illegible]

FASHIONS FOR JANUARY.

[illegible]

Amusing Sketch.

MENTAL EFFECTS OF LONG VOYAGES.

[illegible]

Selected Articles.

ANECDOTES OF THE APE.

[illegible]

GENERAL JACKSON.

[illegible]

POPULAR CREDULITY.

[illegible]

Choice Selections.

ADVERTISEMENT OF A LOST DAY.

BY MRS. LYDIA H. SIGOURNEY.

[illegible]

EFFECTS OF FRIGHT.

[illegible]

THE CONNOISSEUR TAKEN IN.

[illegible]

THE LITTLE GIRL'S SOLILOQUY.

[illegible]

THE CHILD AT THE TOMB.

[illegible]

A WORD TO MOTHERS.

[illegible]

Fun and Frolic.

WINTER.

[illegible]

COMICALITIES.

[illegible]

Agricultural.

ON FERMENTATION.

[illegible]

COLD WATER FOR CATTLE.

[illegible]

A PICKLE FOR ONE HUNDRED POUNDS OF BEEF.

[illegible]

The Olio.

[illegible]

Our Scrap Book.

GRECIAN MARRIAGES.

[illegible]

I TURN TO THEE IN TIME OF NEED.

BY T. H. BAYLEY.

[illegible]

The Riddler.

ENIGMA.

[illegible]

GEOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

[illegible]

MISS SEWARD'S RIDDLE.

[illegible]

RIDDLE.

[illegible]

CONUNDRUMS.

[illegible]

ANSWERS TO RIDDLES IN LAST.

[illegible]

Choice Extracts.

DOMBEY AND SON.

[illegible]

Culinary Department

RECEIPTS.

[illegible]